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REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 28, 2006. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 70 to 75 are presented for examination, with Claims 17, 19, 20, 22 and 76 to 78 having been cancelled and Claims 25 to 69 having been withdrawn from consideration. Of the claims presented for examination, Claims 1 and 9 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.


Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 70 to 75 have been allowed.

Claims 17, 19, 20, 22 and 76 to 78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter and for allegedly lacking patentable utility. These claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and without conceding the correctness of their rejection, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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